

Senate Bill No. 281

Passed the Senate September 8, 2005

Secretary of the Senate

Passed the Assembly September 8, 2005

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 2005, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

CHAPTER _____

An act to add Article 11.5 (commencing with Section 49565) to Chapter 9 of Part 27 of the Education Code, relating to pupil nutrition, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 281, Maldonado. California Fresh Start Pilot Program.

Existing state and federal laws require all schools participating in meal programs to provide nutritious food and beverages to pupils.

Existing law requires that the sale of all foods on school grounds at an elementary school be approved for compliance with specified nutrition standards.

Existing law requires that a minimum of 50% of the food items, except as specified, offered for sale each schoolday at any schoolsite by any entity or organization during regular school hours be selected from a list of specified items, including specified fruits, vegetables, and fruit and vegetable juices.

Existing law requires the State Department of Health Services to establish and implement, to the extent funds other than state general funds are available, a "5 A Day—For Better Health" program for the purpose of promoting public awareness of the need to increase the consumption of fruits and vegetables as part of a low-fat, high-fiber diet in order to improve health and prevent major chronic diseases, including diet-related cancers.

This bill would establish, within the State Department of Education, the California Fresh Start Pilot Program, to be administered by the department, in consultation with the Department of Food and Agriculture and the State Department of Health Services, in order to encourage public schools maintaining kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to provide fruits and vegetables that have not been deep fried to pupils in order to supplement other fruits and vegetables that have not been deep fried and that are available to those pupils, and in order to promote the consumption of nutritious fruits and vegetables by schoolage children.

The bill would make an appropriation by requiring that, of the funds appropriated in a specified item of the Budget Act of 2005, \$400,000 shall be available for the department to provide grants to a county office of education or a community college selected on a competitive basis, to be allocated in the amount of not more than \$100,000 to develop an online professional development seminar for schoolsite staff on serving, marketing, and promoting nutritious fruits and vegetables, and not more than \$300,000 to contract with an independent evaluator to conduct a comprehensive evaluation, as specified.

The bill would require the department, in consultation with the Department of Food and Agriculture, the State Department of Health Services, and the State Board of Education, to develop emergency regulations necessary to implement the program and to establish guidelines for the administration and evaluation of the program.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Appropriation: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 11.5 (commencing with Section 49565) is added to Chapter 9 of Part 27 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 11.5. The California Fresh Start Pilot Program

49565. (a) There is hereby established within the department the California Fresh Start Pilot Program to provide fresh fruits and vegetable for public school pupils. This program shall be administered by the department, in consultation with the Department of Food and Agriculture and the State Department of Health Services.

(b) The program is intended to encourage public schools maintaining kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to provide fruits and vegetables that have not been deep fried to pupils in order to supplement other fruits and vegetables that have not been deep fried and that are available to those pupils, and in order to promote the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables by schoolage children.

(c) Fruits and vegetables that have not been deep fried that are provided pursuant to this article shall be provided free of charge to a pupil, where appropriate.

(d) Fruits and vegetables that have not been deep fried that are provided pursuant to this article shall be provided during the schoolday, but not during regularly scheduled lunch periods.

(e) In making procurement decisions pursuant to this article, a school district or a charter school shall give priority to the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables from California producers, when commercially available.

49565.1. (a) School districts and charter schools may apply for funding, appropriated for purposes of this article in the annual Budget Act or in another statute, for reimbursement of ten cents (\$0.10) per meal, to be paid in quarterly installments by the department, to supplement, but not to supplant, a school breakfast program under Section 49550.3 or under the federal School Breakfast Program. These funds shall be deposited into the nonprofit food service account of the school district or charter school.

(b) The funds described in subdivision (a) shall be available to school districts and charter schools that meet all of the following criteria:

(1) Provide one to two servings of nutritious fruits or vegetables, or both, at breakfast, and give priority to serving fresh fruits and vegetables.

(2) Spend at least 90 percent of the funding for the direct purchase of nutritious fruits and vegetables.

(3) Do not spend any of the funding for the purchase of juice.

(4) Provide data as required by the independent evaluator pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 49565.7.

49565.2. (a) The funds described in subdivision (a) of Section 49565.1 may be combined with other funding sources to ensure that at least one serving per day of nutritious fruits or vegetables, or both, is provided pursuant to the pilot program.

49565.3. Sites that already offer two servings of nutritious fruits or vegetables for breakfast may be reimbursed at ten cents (\$0.10) per meal for providing nutritious fruits or vegetables for after school snacks.

49565.4. (a) School districts and charter schools that do not operate school breakfast programs are encouraged to apply for

funding to establish breakfast programs using funds appropriated for this purpose in the annual Budget Act.

49565.5. Specific strategies for the provision of one to two servings of nutritious fruits or vegetables, or both, may include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following:

(a) Fruit bars located at the school cafeteria with a minimum of three choices of fruits or vegetables, or both.

(b) Grab-and-go breakfasts with one to two servings of fruits or vegetables, or both, to be eaten on the school campus.

(c) Universal classroom breakfast that includes one to two servings of fruits or vegetables, or both.

49565.6. As a condition of receipt of funds, schoolsites participating in this program shall include tasting and sampling of nutritious fruits and vegetables as part of nutrition education. Strategies for nutrition education that include tasting and sampling of nutritious fruits or vegetables, or both, may include, but not be limited to:

(a) Educational sampling and tasting supported with nutrition education.

(b) An offering of fruits or vegetables in the classroom that is reinforced with nutrition and agricultural bulletins.

(c) A monthly school campus farmers' market that allows opportunities for school clubs, organizations, boosters, sports teams, and other groups to organize a farmers' market that highlights California produce for the student body to sample and taste.

(d) A produce sampling program that supports a school garden's harvest through additional purchases of local, in-season fruits or vegetables to be used for a sampling and tasting program for the school campus featuring what is growing in the school garden.

49565.7. Of the funds appropriated for this purpose in Schedule (9) of Item 6110-485 of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2005 (Ch. 38, Stats. 2005), as amended by Chapter 39 of the Statutes of 2005, four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) shall be available for the State Department of Education to provide grants to a county office of education or a community college selected on a competitive basis, to be allocated as follows:

(a) Not more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to develop an online professional development seminar for

schoolsite staff on serving, including safe handling guidelines, marketing, and promoting nutritious fruits and vegetables.

(b) Not more than three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) to contract with an independent evaluator to conduct a comprehensive evaluation, including a determination of the need for educational materials for pupils and staff professional development programs on the safe handling, serving, and marketing of nutritious fruits and vegetables as part of the California Fresh Start Pilot Program.

49565.8. The department, in consultation with the Department of Food and Agriculture, the State Department of Health Services, and the State Board of Education, shall do both of the following:

(a) Develop emergency regulations, as it deems necessary, to implement the program established pursuant to this article.

(b) Establish guidelines for the evaluation of the program developed pursuant to this article.

SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to make the necessary statutory changes to implement the Budget Act of 2005 at the earliest time possible, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.

Approved _____, 2005

Governor